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The Week.

Foreign.

The English press has been mainly occupied during the week with Parnell's late Dublin speech, over which both liberal and conservatives have worked themselves up into a small fury. The universal interpretation placed upon it is, that Parnell has struck out for complete Irish independence. In reference to which the *Times* has echoed the entire English press in saying: "Parnell must not deceive himself: impossible is the only reply to his demand for independence."

Meantime it is admitted that Parnell's power is now more absolute than ever, and that he will win eighty-seven seats in the next Parliament. The meetings in Ireland are as large as in the Land League's best days. The registration work is extremely active, and extraordinary spirit, enthusiasm, and hopes are visible in all faces."

Considering the great disparity between the power of Spain and Germany, the recent outburst of the former at the latter's assumption of a right to colonize the Caroline islands looks ridiculous. No Spanish government, surely, unless smitten with insanity, would measure strength with the arbiter of Europe. Yet Spain has ordered several men of war to the Carolines, and makes a bold show of fight. Meantime Bismarck professes to be taken completely by surprise at this furious irritation of Spain, especially as ten years ago he had notified the Madrid Government that Germany could not recognize the validity of Spain's long dormant claim to the Carolines, to which no response was made. Meantime, however, Germany has no desire further to irritate Spain on the subject and has made a very conciliatory offer to submit the whole matter in dispute to arbitration.

For the 99th time it is stated that the Afghan question is permanently settled, Russia conceding to the Ameer full possession of Zulairak and Meruclak.

U. S. Minister Phelps delivered a fine speech on Monday evening on the occasion of the opening of a Workingman's Club at Rugby, the *Times* in its comments saying: "He has readiness in the use of speech and a remarkable power of interesting his auditors on public occasions, and he may be congratulated on his manner of avoiding the utterance of anything that could give offense to either political party or to the country as a whole."

The cholera in Spain shows only such abatement during the week as would necessarily arise from the diminished material, owing to the flight of the better class inhabitants, to operate upon. The new cases are about 3,000 a day and the deaths from 1,000 to 1,500 a day.

In regard to Marseilles U. S. Consul Mason reports to the State Department at Washington that there were 721 deaths between the 1st and 19th of August, and that they average 83 a day. He says the epidemic was not imported, but grew out of the filthy condition of the city. A number of fatal cases of cholera are reported in the department of Herault, and the malady has also appeared in Algiers, Transylvania, and near Naples, in Italy.

The small-pox epidemic at Montreal continues, the deaths averaging 35 a day. The municipal health board has applied to the provincial authorities for assistance in fighting the epidemic, which is attributed mainly to the filthy condition of the French-Canadian quarter of the city. Small-pox is also prevailing in a violent form at Valparaiso, Chili.

A very serious anti-Chinese riot has been raging for several days among the coal miners at Rock Springs, in Wyoming. The mines belong to the Union Pacific Railroad, and had hitherto been worked mainly by white miners. For a year or more past, however, the railroad company has been gradually filling the mines with Chinese, so that lately there were about 500 whites to 400 Chinese employed. A week ago another squad of 60 Chinese were brought to the mines and thereupon the whites rebelled. They drove the Chinese out in a body, burned their cabins and compelled them to take refuge in the mountains, where at last accounts they were in a starving condition, from fifteen to thirty of them having been killed in the driving out process. Gov. Warren, of Wyoming, has gone to the scene of disturbance and telegraphs to Omaha for military assistance.

The coroner's jury, in the case of Mayor Walkup, of Emporia, Kansas, whose sudden death under suspicious circumstances was mentioned in our last, have returned a verdict "that deceased came to his death by arsenical poison administered to him feloniously by his wife, Minnie Wallace Walkup." Mrs. Walkup was thereupon promptly arrested and placed in the lockup.

All the big New York dailies of Tuesday devote several columns to an account of the shooting of Tom Davis, a notorious gambler and crook of that city, by a Texan named James T. Holland. The latter had come to New York in response to one of Davis's circulars offering to give \$10,000 in counterfeit money for \$500 in good money. Holland paid over the good money and saw the \$10,000 counterfeit money (which was so well executed as to raise a suspicion that it was genuine) put into his satchel, but a moment later detected Davis's confederate, his brother Theodore Davis, who was in a dark room and operating through the false back of the desk, in the act of taking the package from the satchel and substituting a roll of blank paper for it.

Thereupon Holland drew his revolver and killed the principal to the swindle. Holland is 32 years old, and a real estate dealer at Abilene, Taylor county, Texas. Davis had accumulated quite a fortune by his various swindling games and is said to leave cash and other property to his wife and family worth \$100,000.

PARNELL.

It is difficult at this distance to account for the hubbub that has been stirred up by the London papers over Parnell's recent speech at Dublin, except on the ground that, in the exigencies of the present election contest over a new parliament in England, both the liberals and conservatives expect to gain something by misrepresenting and getting up a hue and cry against Parnell. The ground that Parnell really took in his Dublin speech was the same as that announced by the Home-rule party as long ago as 1870, and is briefly embraced in the words: "An Imperial Parliament for imperial purposes and an Irish Parliament for Irish affairs." Substantially the same ground was taken by the Irish Home-rule League organized in 1873, which, in its "platform" or declaration, announced as its object to obtain for Ireland an Irish Parliament to manage Irish affairs, said parliament to have the right to legislate for and regulate all matters relating to the internal affairs of Ireland, to control Irish resources and revenue while contributing a just portion to the imperial expenses and leaving to the Imperial Parliament the power of dealing with imperial matters. And Lord Beaconsfield, as recently as 1880, in discussing the home-rule question, expressed an entire willingness to concede to Ireland substantially all the home-rulers demanded, saying:

"We have got an overweighted Parliament, and if Ireland, or any other portion of the country, is desirous and able to so arrange its affairs that by taking the local part or some local part of its transactions off the hands of Parliament, it can liberate and strengthen Parliament for imperial concerns, I say I will not only accord a reluctant assent, but I will give a zealous support to any such scheme."

Surely in a re-annunciation of such purposes there was nothing so new or startling as to justify the London press in its present flurry. Yet there was one expression in Parnell's speech that is construed as especially offensive. It was where he warned England, if the denial of the rightful claim of Ireland was persisted in, "the first session of the new parliament would be the last in which Irish members would deign to take part." It is in reference to this that the *Spectator*, echoing the *Times* and *Standard*, exclaims:

"What the present leaders of the rebellious party in Ireland are now aiming at is Irish independence—an Irish republic."

"Great Britain will be on strong grounds if she says:—We will give you every liberty we desire for ourselves and we will not give you more. We are not going to disintegrate the United Kingdom because one portion of it is utterly discontented with the Union. Make up your minds that the Union is due to your physical proximity to us, and that unless you can tow Ireland out for some hundreds of miles, at least, into the Atlantic, we cannot afford to let you set up a separate administration, which would be a constant danger to us."

Yet this is a gross and unmanly perversion. What Parnell did say was in reference to the semi-official proposition of the present conservative government to grant Ireland, instead of the parliament asked for, local county governments, something like our Illinois township organization system. Rather than accept such an abortion, said Parnell, we will withdraw from parliament altogether.

But there was not a word or thought in his utterance to justify the charge that he was aiming at "Irish independence—an Irish Republic." There is a world of difference between legislative independence or home-rule and a total separation of Ireland from England. The latter idea has not so far as we are aware, been mooted by Mr. Parnell; consequently there is no reason for the English press going off at half-cock about a matter which they evidently do not understand or do not want to.

In a word, Parnell asks no more than Lord Beaconsfield five years ago said he was willing to concede; no more than Franz Deak asked for Hungary and which he eventually achieved in the present dual existence of the Austro-Hungarian Empire—a union which at once satisfied the national aspirations of the Magyars and added strength to the Empire of the Hapsburgs; asks for nothing more than is enjoyed by each of our own States in its Legislature, by each State of the German Empire in its Landtag—namely, that Ireland be permitted to live its own national existence, to be a self governing and integral portion of the Empire and subservient to its far-reaching imperial interests.

Gov. Oglesby, on Saturday, announced the following as the members of the commission authorized by the last legislature to be appointed to revise the revenue laws of this state and report to the next legislature. The law requires that the members shall be selected half and half from the two great political parties of the day: The Hon. Milton Ray, Republican, Sangamon County; the Hon. Horatio C. Burchard, Republican, Freeport; Frank P. Crandon, Republican, Evanston; Marshall Field, Democrat, Chicago; Andrew D. Duff, Democrat, Carbondale; W. Seldon Gale, Republican, Galesburg; E. D. Green, Republican, Mount Carmel; Charles S. Walker, Democrat, Chicago; Charles A. Ewing, Democrat, Decatur; William C. Willson, Democrat, Robinson; Charles W. Thomas, Republican, Belleville; Benjamin Warren, Jr., La Harpe, Hancock County, Democrat. The appointments are generally commended as excellent. The men selected are about all prominent business men, who pay most of the taxes and know better than most people the ways to dodge

the assessor. If they go to work with a single and sincere purpose to give us honest revenue laws, they are the class of men qualified to do so. Yet it is not to be disguised that tinkering the revenue laws has been a favorite hobby with about every legislature since Illinois has been a state, and for that matter with the law makers of all states and nations since well organized civil government has been known; yet it is doubtful whether the systems of collecting the taxes are much better to-day than they were in the more enlightened countries a thousand or two thousand years ago. It is safe to predict, at least, that the present commission, who are to do up their work in 90 days and get \$900 apiece for the job, will effect no such improvement in our present system as will extort a general assent that the \$20,000 or \$30,000 the movement will cost have been well spent.

WESTERN WATERWAYS.

A western waterways convention is in session at St. Paul, attended by delegates from Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri and a few other adjoining states. We have thus far only the first day's proceedings, which were presided over by ex-Gov. Brass, of Chicago, as temporary chairman. What the convention will accomplish thus remains to be seen. The tone of the first day's speeches, however, is very decided that unless congress hereafter shall vote the bulk of its river and harbor appropriations to the improvement of western waterways, no river and harbor bill of any sort shall hereafter become a law. In regard to the Hennepin Canal, which is really the most important subject the convention ought to consider, Gov. Brass was applauded in saying:

"The Erie and Welland canals, with the water transits of the great lakes, now end at Chicago, but with the Hennepin canal it will be extended from six hundred to eight hundred miles northwest to St. Paul. Can any man doubt that such a work would reserve to the people ten times the interest on its cost every year? Surely there should be no more delay than is absolutely needed in its construction."

A "VETERAN" OLD SETTLER.—The old settlers of Pleasant Plains, Sangamon county, no doubt "struck it rich" when they secured Col. E. D. Taylor to deliver the address at their annual re-union a few days ago. The Colonel was a "settler" of Sangamon county 63 years ago, and was one of the leading spirits in the movement that made Springfield the state capital. It was through his influence mainly that in 1836, (though at the time, by appointment of Gen. Jackson, holding a position in the public land office, a "union ticket" was made up of the ablest men in that region, with the sole purpose of securing such legislation at Vandalia as should remove the capital to Springfield. The movement led to the election to the legislature of the famous "Long Nine," so often mentioned in Illinois history. The delegation consisted of Job Fletcher and A. G. Herndon as senators, and E. D. Baker (killed at Ball's Bluff), John Dawson, Ninian W. Edwards, W. F. Elkin, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew McCormick and Robert L. Wilson in the house. It was this delegation which, at the session of 1837, succeeded in having the state capital removed to Springfield. Col. Taylor himself had frequently represented Sangamon county both in the upper and lower house of the legislature, and would doubtless have been one of the "Nine" but for his position in the land office.

While, however, probably meeting few settlers even in so ancient a settlement as Pleasant Plains, who had been his contemporaries when "Lincoln and Douglas were boys," the Colonel, whose memory was rich in reminiscences of Sangamon county and its many famous citizens of the earlier days, was able to give them a delightful talk that will long be remembered. Col. Taylor is now 81 years old, though still mentally and physically as vigorous as a majority of men 20 years his junior.

THE BALANCE OF TRADE.—Treasury statistics to August 1st show the balance of trade for the past year to have been largely in our favor. The excess of exports over imports during the year was \$161,989,214. So large a balance in our favor shows, not that business here has been booming or even prosperous, for when that is the condition and people feel rich and comfortable, they almost invariably buy more than they sell; but it shows that the country is in that healthy condition when it is economizing, paying its debts, and laying the solid foundation for another era of booming prosperity close at hand.

According to the best authority there seems to be an agreement among the New York merchants that the prospects for the fall trade are very encouraging. There is no boom, but there promises to be a prosperous trade with advanced prices. Which prompts the *Chicago Times* to remark: "This is the testimony of Chicago and other trade centers, and altogether an unfortunate state of things exists in the business world for John Sherman and other campaign orators who are expatiating on the growing depression under a democratic administration."

"The Big Bend Re Union Association of Illinois" have made arrangements for a grand re-union of soldiers and sailors at Streator, Sept. 23d to 25th. The affair is under the same auspices that gave us such a successful reunion at Ottawa a year ago. An interesting feature of the re-union will be a special department for veterans of the Mexican war. The occasion promises to be one of deep interest. The state will furnish tents, etc., and the railroads extend the lowest rates.

Mrs. Gen. Grant and family have left Mount McGregor and moved to the Grant mansion in New York.

The will of the late Judge T. Lyle Dickey was on Tuesday proved before Judge Prendergast, the witnesses being Chief Justice Schöffel and Associate Justice John H. Mulkey. The heirs are the widow, Buelah C. Dickey, who is made executrix; John J. Dickey, of Omaha, Neb.; Martha Ann Wallace, of Ottawa, Ill.; Chas. H. Dickey and Victoria Belle Wallace, children of the testator. The estate is valued at \$50,000, and consists of notes, bonds, money, and claims in litigation against the townships of Bruce and Osage in La Salle county, and Evans, in Marshall county.

Private Purdie's Murder.

It will probably be impossible, says the *Journal Republic*, to get the name of the man who killed poor Purdie, but if he could be found he ought to be punished. At all events, the cavalry ought to be made to wear a ball and chain till they repented of their wicked conduct that day.

The *Journal News* thinks "it looks as if the state would have to take care of the dependent family in some sort of damage suit."

The *Times*, of Streator, wants the cavalry abolished and sham battles prohibited. It says: "There are two things which should be abolished. The First Regiment of Illinois Cavalry should be the first to take a walk, but not until it has been made to feel guilty of manslaughter. Then sham battles should be forever prohibited. They are very dangerous to life and limb, and afford men too many opportunities to vent their personal spite. Abolish them both."

Coroner Clendenin, of La Salle, has the following in regard to the inquest held by him recently: "The special inquest held by the Purdie inquest sent from La Salle to last Saturday's *Chicago Daily News* by one A. L. Hennessy does a very great injustice to myself and a jury of six of our leading citizens. The jury was carefully selected by myself, and was composed of careful, well-informed, honorable gentlemen, and is as follows: Forman, J. R. Corbus, M. D., ex-postmaster of La Salle; P. M. Burke, M. D., Secretary of the United States pension examining board of this district; H. J. Barker, Esq., wholesale and retail groceries and fruits; Geo. A. Wilson, Esq., boots and shoes and leather; M. Volmer, Esq., furniture and undertaking; J. W. Bornheim, Esq., groceries and provisions. While making up the jury the above mentioned correspondent (Hennessy) came to me and asked to be put on the jury, which I, for good and sufficient reasons, declined to do. Hence his pique and false report to the *Daily News* and other Chicago papers."

The *News-Herald*, of Peru, says that every possible effort will be made to identify and arrest the dastard who caused his death.

The following letter is a defense of the cavalry by one of its members:

Chicago, Aug. 29.—We regret very much the death of R. A. Purdie, of the Fourth Regiment. We think, though, by closer investigation, it will be found that Purdie was shot by men in his own company while escaping, after having been a prisoner in the cavalry. There are two witnesses who can prove one man of Co. I was shot that way. Another man was shot in the face when he stumbled over a barbed wire fence.

If our Lieutenant Williams, who was stabbed through the head with a bayonet, should have died from lock-jaw we would not have charged the infantry with the lock-jaw, but simply with a bayonet thrust, given when they had orders not to use bayonets. We suppose it is the best policy to say as little possible about these matters, but it is a mystery to us that nobody has taken our defense against the unjust remarks in the press all this time.

It was ridiculous to read all the misrepresentations in the papers the day after the sham fight. We can prove that one out of ten of our boys did not know which regiment they were fighting with when they turned the Fourth Regiment on us; so the theory of a grudge is out of the question.

The members of our command can take an oath that they had no grudge against any of the infantry regiments. They tried to do with us what we tried to do with them, and we both succeeded about equally well. If you did not see the two infantry companies in ambush, attack the Fourth or Third Regiment while they were crossing the bridge? No, the companies in ambush waited for the cavalry. One company of cavalry and a few men from another company drove them back over the bridge—not two cavalry companies—as formerly stated.

The infantry on the bridge gave us the first volley at about 15 yards distance. Where were the 30 yards? Then the cavalry charged and drove them back, and they retreated, shoulder to shoulder, like soldiers ought to.

I suppose that young men who enlist in the cavalry have more or less military spirit in them, or else they would not be there. There are very few men to be found in that organization who have enlisted in order to show off in fine uniform or to mash the girls in a parade. Place such men in the position we were in at Camp Weller: Attacked from all sides, few in number, powder-burned and heated in 90 degrees above zero, in a double time for two hours or more, and they will necessarily become excited; and if the programme was that they should win, two brigades could not have made such men retreat alive. Of grudges there were none, and are none. The day after camp Weller was pitched the press came out with remarks that the citizens of Illinois would like to see the militia "go to camp the same way as the heroes of '62, without chinaware, dishes, cook stoves or flooring in their tents." No remarks were made about the cavalry. What about our bare ground beds, with a little straw and tin cups and camp fires and volunteer cooks? Our boys would feel sorely disappointed if our camp discipline was not strict enough to suit any regular army commander.

At all events, we are on friendly terms with the whole brigade, and when state or country calls upon us we will try to do our duty.

We would recommend that a subscription be started in the whole two brigades for the dead comrade's widow.

A CAVALRYMAN.

Subscriptions have already commenced at La Salle for the widow and children of this dead soldier, and the funds will soon be swelled into thousands all along the line. Co. D, of this city, will respond with a hearty good will.

AULD LANG SYNE.

An Unusually Large Gathering at the Old Settlers' Picnic.

FULLY 5,000 PRESENT.

Thursday dawned auspiciously, and a benignant smile seemed to steal over the face of nature as though in welcome of the day set for the Old Settlers' picnic. Early in the day, and long before the forenoon exercises began, farmers from many miles around drove into the city with their families, and there were about 3,000 people present at the time President of the Day Allen called the assembly to order. It was the 17th annual reunion of the association since its permanent establishment, May 29, 1869, and the following, taken from Secretary Ebersol's books, may be of interest to the reader: On the date above mentioned a few of the old settlers met at the court house in this city, and Josiah Shaw was elected chairman and A. M. Ebersol secretary. On motion of Jesse Green, to be eligible to membership, a residence in the state or county of 30 years was required. The first picnic of the society was held at Caton's park, August 19, 1869, the committee of arrangements being D. F. Hitt, Jesse Green, J. T. Mitchell and William Palmer. There was an attendance of about 1,000. The Clifton, which was presided over by Louis Howard, had provided a splendid bill of fare, but as nearly all came provided with luncheon, only 100 sat down to the feast at the hotel. After dinner Hon. John C. Champlin delivered the address, and Judge Cary was also one of the speakers. An address on "Self-made Men," an able and original essay, was also delivered, so says the secretary's record, by "Young Caton." Lucien Delano recounted some laughable stories of pioneer life. Sam Lewis introduced Mrs. W. Munson as Rachel Hall, the girl who had been stolen by the Indians, and who was a prisoner of the Saes and Foxes for about two weeks. Such was the first meeting of this society in brief outline. Since then there have been meetings regularly each year. The second meeting was held at the same place, Aug. 18, 1870, at which Judge Caton delivered an address. At the meeting, Aug. 24, 1871, Elder W. Batchelor was president. Judge Dickey was one of the speakers. The fourth meeting was held as above, at which speeches were made by Geo. E. Walker, John Miller, Elmer Baldwin and Judge Dickey. The fifth meeting was held at the Fair Grounds, Aug. 21, 1873, the address of the day being made by Washington Bushnell. Aug. 20, 1874, was the time of the sixth meeting, Judge Gilman delivering the annual address. John Miller was elected president of the seventh meeting, and the picnic was held at Hoes' grove, Judge Blanchard being the orator of the day. Since then the annual gatherings of the society have been held at the same grove, the eighth being given Aug. 24th, the same officers having been chosen as at the meeting previous. David Green was elected president of the society for the next year, and the ninth gathering of the society was held Aug. 16th, no formal address being made. At the tenth meeting, Aug. 15, 1878, Elmer Baldwin read an original paper, and the annual address was delivered by Col. Fort, of Marshall county. Cyrus Shaver was president of the eleventh gathering, which was held Aug. 14th, at which John Wentworth, of Chicago, and P. C. Hayes, of Morris, were the speakers. The twelfth annual meeting was presided over by President John Armstrong, and the picnic was held Aug. 12th. Col. Taylor, G. M. Bane, of Lacon, J. D. Caton, John Armstrong, Judge Dickey and others were among the speakers. Mrs. Steinmeyer, of South Ottawa, delivered an original poem. At the thirteenth meeting Wash Armstrong was president. The picnic was given Aug. 11th. The fourteenth meeting had the same officers, and the picnic was given Aug. 24th. J. W. Ebersol was elected secretary and treasurer of the fifteenth meeting, which office he has since continued to hold. The picnic was given Aug. 23d. Last year the old officers were re-elected, and the gathering was held Aug. 21st. At the regular election for officers, held in May, Isaac Abrams, of Peru, was elected president, but on account of the infirmities of age declined to serve, and Col. D. F. Hitt was appointed. As stated at the beginning, the seventeenth annual meeting, held Thursday, Sept. 3d, was a day for which all were indeed grateful to Him who presides over the destinies of all things. After singing "America" by the assembly, prayer was delivered by Rev. M. K. Whittlesey, and then came a brief address of welcome by the president of the day, Mayor E. C. Allen, which was responded to by Elmer Baldwin, in the absence of John Miller, who did not arrive until late in the afternoon. The Prairie Center band, an amateur organization, which had generously offered its services, enlivened the occasion by some very fine music, and the exercises for the forenoon were ended. Many of those from a distance had brought their dinner along, and they then partook of the noon-day meal under the shade of the beautiful trees, where so many of the old settlers had met, and made merry. And there is something very touching in all this. Brought together from the distant ends of this country many seeing each other only at these pleasant gatherings, it can indeed be called a re-union, where is exchanged kindly greetings, fraternal fellowship and warm hand claspings. The meeting this year was characterized by the largest attendance at any of the annual gatherings heretofore. The attendance has been estimated at 6,000, but there were fully 5,000 persons present, unquestionably. In the absence of Hon. B. C. Cook, Perry A. Armstrong, of Morris, who was on his way to Rock Island to deliver the oration before the old settlers of that county the next day, was called upon to fill the place, and spoke for about half an

hour, describing scenes, incidents and stories in relation to the Black Hawk war. The honorable gentleman was listened to with great attention by the assembled thousands, and his speech was replete with salient points in regard to that memorable epoch in the history of this region. After singing and music by the band, Col. E. D. Taylor made some highly eulogistic remarks of the great city of La Salle, and of the great commonwealth of Illinois, which he styled the Empire state of the west, and which would be in future the Empire state of the continent. He dealt at length upon the inexhaustible resources of the prairie state, and compared it now to what it was in 1814, when he came to Illinois. There was then only a population of 1,200 in this county, which was second to-day. Chicago is all there is of Cook county. Take that away and but a corporal's guard would remain. He said that when he saw a man leaving this state, with its immeasurable wealth and fertility of soil, he knew that man was making a mistake. No other state could compare with it. He referred to the great names with which Illinois had adorned the pages of history, and his short speech was highly applauded. During Col. Taylor's speech Emory A. Storrs, the celebrated Chicago lawyer, who was in the city on business before the Supreme Court, was noticed in the crowd, and was called for. He stepped upon the platform, but some one in the audience moved that he ascend the stand as the people wanted to both see and hear him, which he accordingly did. His was, of course, the address of the day. Though entirely unprepared and with scarcely an effort on his part, he delivered a brief, but brilliant speech, supplementary to that on Illinois, made by the previous speaker. He began by paying a high compliment to the city of Ottawa, and said that there was a mistake, which he hoped would be rectified by the old settlers at their next meeting. He perceived a great many gray-haired men on the platform but no gray-haired women. They were down in the body of the audience with their lords and masters' hand-satchels, doing the chores, which work they have been engaged in for the past 50 years, no doubt. He wanted to know why they, too, were not on the platform. It was all wrong. He did not think that Illinois was great because a large state. It was not great in the extent of its territory, its rivers, hills and dells. It was great because of the glory of the men who had lived in it. It was great because of such men as Douglas, Lincoln, Grant, Col. Taylor, Hon. Burton C. Cook, and others. Illinois was truly a great state. It never made a promise that it did not keep, and every promise was with 100 cents on the dollar. It was among such people as are gathered before us here to-day that the great Democratic leader found his friends. It was with such people that Lincoln and Grant made lasting friendships. It was the character of those people who made Illinois what she is to-day—these her common people. Illinois was the only state in the Union that filled her quota of soldiers without a draft and no regiment raised within her borders ever turned its back on the foe. He had traveled around the world and in the most remote climes Illinois was known and honored. He was a partisan, but above all, he was what every elector should be, an American citizen. In closing the distinguished speaker spoke of the elective franchise, and stated the children should be educated to an enlightened citizenship in which the purity of the ballot would be elevated and maintained.

H. E. Gedney was then introduced and read the original poem appended. He prefaced his remarks by some witty allusions to some of the newspaper men of this city. Called George Blake the master of the nurses, and Thomas Crane the double X attorney, who ground out 97 counts against the gang on Court street for trying to smoke Mitch's No. 7's. The programme closed with the poem, and all departed, having spent the most delightful time ever experienced at any of these re-unions.

TIME WILL TELL.

Contributed by H. E. GEDNEY and read at the Old Settlers' Picnic in Ottawa Sept. 3, 1885, being the anniversary of the author's birthday.

My eye grows dim to think how slim I am to-day, and how my vim seems gone away, and hair turned grey—Somehow I feel a sorrow real.

Though I seem gay this festive day, I know that I am growing grey; That seasons change and pass away, And meadows green turn into hay.

The maiden fair, of sweet sixteen, So free from care, with look serene, With raven hair and lofty mien, O! time will mar and change the scene.

The youth so spry and lover gay, That hard doth try his love to say— The years roll by and change his day.

The man so dote, and maiden grown, Whose "wild oats" late have all been sown, Are passing by their month of May, And fast are on the winding way, And soon will reach December's day.

And yet the true, long time-tried men, And women too, four-score and ten, Look into their tears and view the years, And count their loves and hopes and fears.

The aged, whom we see to-day, Were once elastic, young and gay; As they now be, all bent and grey, So you will be some future day.

The years pass away, the hair turneth grey, Our cheeks fade like flowers in the shade; Months swiftly they go like waters at flow; In the morning of light there soon comes the Spring passes away, and roses decay; (Night; Sweet flowers of May do wilt in a day; Light; Eyes beaming and bright soon lose their soft Sunny rays, happy days they do not last always. Then while we do live 'tis goodly to give Each fleet-passing day some little light ray. Light imparteth light and dispelleth night; Love begeth love, making earth like above. Each dew-drop of rain may help to ease pain; June's leafy green bowers lend beauty to flowers.

Here, then, while we stay let's try to be gay, And not pine away till December's day; Yes, here I would say, just be merry, Wed while it is May, and live merrily. Advice is soon cheap, so cheap that few reap. Rain, gentle, still rain falls never in vain. Dew, sweet morning dew is grateful to view.